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PATENT M.L. Attorney Docket No.: 18547-004131US

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By: John J. Pake

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Examiner:

Unassigned

CHEE et al.

Art Unit:

Unassigned

Application No.: Unassigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Filed: Herewith

For: ARRAYS OF NUCLEIC ACID PROBES ON BIOLOGICAL CHIPS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-30 without prejudice.

Please and the following new claims.

--31 An assay plate for detecting the presence of a first predetermined type of oligonucleotide in a solution containing an unknown oligonucleotide, the assay plate comprising:

a fused silida substrate; and

a dried aliquot of a first known oligonucleotide, the dried aliquot covalently bonded to the fused silica substrate, the known oligonucleotide operative to bind said

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